

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 06747 281600Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /057 W
-----098884 290930Z /13

R 281518Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5400
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 6747

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT, SY
SUBJECT: DISTRICT GOVERNORS TO BE RESHUFFLED/SACKED

1. TWO SEPARATE WESTERN DIPLOMATS HAVE TOLD US OF INFORMATION THEY HAVE RECEIVED CONCERNING RECENT BAATH PARTY REGIONAL COMMAND MEETING IN WHICH DECISIONS WERE TAKEN TO TRANSFER OR REPLACE A NUMBER OF DISTRICT GOVERNORS (MUHAAFIZIIN). ITALIAN EMBOFF TOLD US THAT RESERVE MEMBER OF THE COMMAND, FAYEZ NOURI REGRETTEED ARRIVING LATE TO RECENT DINNER AT EMBOFF'S HOUSE AND OFFERED EXCUSE THAT THE COMMAND MEETING LASTED LATER THAN USUAL BECAUSE IT WAS DISCUSSING CHANGES IN HEADS OF GOVERNATES.

2. FRENCH EMBOFF RECEIVED SIMILAR INFORMATION FROM SEPARATE SOURCE AND CLAIMED THAT THE TRANSFERS WERE DIRECTLY LINKED TO THE CONTINUING ANTI-CORRUPTION CAMPAIGN. HE SAID THAT
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CHARGES OF NEGLIGENCE AS WELL AS CORRUPTION PLAYED A PART IN THE SHAKE-UP. THE CHANGES, HE BELIEVED, WOULD BE ANNOUNCED ON NOVEMBER 16, THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "CORRECTIVE MOVEMENT" (ASSAD'S OUSTER OF JADID), AND MIGHT INCLUDE OTHER PERSONNEL CHANGES. ANOTHER SOURCE TOLD US THAT PRESIDENT ASSAD WILL ALSO TAKE THAT OCCASION TO INCREASE SALARIES OF CIVIL SERVANTS.

3. COMMENT: RECENTLY PRESS HAS DEVOTED LITTLE ATTENTION TO THE ANTI-CORRUPTION DRIVE. WE HAVE NO FIRM EVIDENCE THAT ASSAD SEEKING TO WRAP IT UP, BUT IT CONCEIVABLE THAT NOV 16 COULD SERVE AS OCCASION TO MAKE SOME COSMETIC PERSONNEL CHANGES, ANNOUNCE SOME POPULAR MEASURES SUCH AS CIVIL SERVICE PAY INCREASES, AND THEN ESSENTIALLY ALLOW THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE TO QUIETLY DIE AT THE END OF ITS SIX MONTH MANDATE. MURPHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY MEETINGS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC06747
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770398-0441
Format: TEL
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771012/aaaaajll.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 91b0c924-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 759426
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISTRICT GOVERNORS TO BE RESHUFFLED/SACKED
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, SY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/91b0c924-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009